

**Remarks**

Applicant appreciates the telephone interviews with the Examiner conducted on January 4, 2006. Applicant understands from these interviews that the Examiner will consider the presently pending claims if they are amended to be specific for inhibiting the growth of breast cancer tumor cells.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112**

The Examiner has maintained the previous rejection of claims 1, 5-7 and 9-13 as lacking enablement for inhibiting growth in any and/or all tumors. However, the Examiner has acknowledged that the present specification is enabled for a method of synergistically inhibiting breast cancer tumor growth in a mammal comprising the steps of administering to the mammal the combination of anti-endoglin monoclonal antibody SN6j and cyclophosphamide or doxorubicin. In this regard, claims 1 and 11 have been amended to specify that the method pertains only to inhibition of growth of breast cancer tumor cells. Thus, in view of these amendments, removal of the stated rejections is respectfully requested.

In respect of the Examiner's assertion that Applicant has not provided evidence that an antigen binding fragment of SN6j and the chemotherapeutic agents will have a synergistic effect on all tumors, Applicant points out that the claims have been limited to inhibiting growth of breast cancer tumors only. Further, and as discussed during the interviews referenced above, antigen binding fragments are widely acknowledged by those skilled in the art to possess the same antigen binding properties as the whole antibody from which the fragments are derived. Moreover, since SN6j is a monoclonal antibody, each of the antigen binding fragments binds the same epitope as SN6j. Therefore, one skilled in the art would predict that the claimed antigen binding fragments would achieve the same result as the intact SN6j antibody in the present method. Similarly, another antibody which binds to the same epitope as SN6j would be expected

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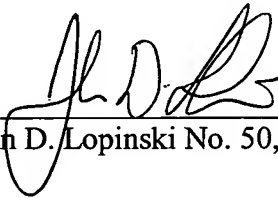
to have a similar synergistic action (claim 11). Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to remove the stated rejections and to allow all the claims.

**Conclusion**

Based on the above arguments and amendments, Applicant believes that claims 1, 5-7, and 9-13 are now in a condition for allowance and therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to allow these claims.

Applicant herewith requests a one-month extension of time to respond to this Office Action. A check in the amount of \$60.00 for the required extension fee is enclosed. If any additional fees are due the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-2442.

Respectfully submitted,  
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